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ABSTRACT

For nearly 30 years the federal government has funded education programs to help disadvantaged children succeed in school. This book examines and evaluates three existing programs (Project Head Start, Project Follow Through, and the so-called Chapter 1 programs of the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act) and describes the newly-created Head Start Transition Project. The authors recommend that the huge Chapter 1 program adopt the model of the Transition Project to become the school-age version of Head Start, creating a well-funded, coordinated, and cost-effective series of interventions with unified goals and comprehensive services to meet the needs of poor children from the preschool years through the early elementary grades. The five essays are as follows: (1) "The National Head Start Program for Disadvantaged Preschoolers" (Edward Zigler and others); (2) "Project Follow Through: Intent and Reality" (Carol Doernberger and Edward Zigler); (3) "America's Title I/Chapter 1 Programs: Why the Promise Has Not Been Met" (Carmen G. Arroyo and Edward Zigler); (4) "The Head Start Transition Project: Head Start Goes to Elementary School" (Edward M. Kennedy); and (5) "Strength in Unity: Consolidating Federal Education Programs for Young Children" (Edward Zigler and Sally J. Styfco). Each essay includes a list of references. (MDM)

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